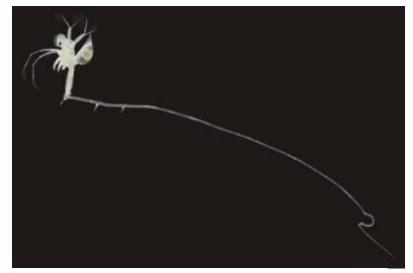
Invasive Species Alert

Fishhook Waterflea

(Cercopagis pengoi)
Detected in Michigan

Identification:

- Translucent body with black eyes
- Body length: 1-3 mm; 6-13 mm including tail
- Tail contains 3 pairs of barbs and an s-shaped hook near the end
- Generally in clusters of at least 10 individuals
- Clusters appear as wet cotton on items like cables, ropes, and fishing lines



Graphic: Igor Grigorovich, University of Windsor

Diet: Fishhook waterfleas consume other zooplankton species.

Habitat: Fishhook waterfleas live in freshwater and brackish lakes.

Native Range: Aral, Azov, Black, and Caspian seas of Asia and Europe

Report this species at www.misin.msu.edu or download the MISIN smartphone app and report it from your phone

U.S. Distribution: The fishhook waterflea has been reported in Lakes Ontario, Michigan, Erie, Huron, Superior, Muskegon Lake, and the Finger Lakes of New York.

Local Concern: Dietary preference put this species in direct competition with native planktivores. The long tail spine and barbs make this zooplankton less appealing to

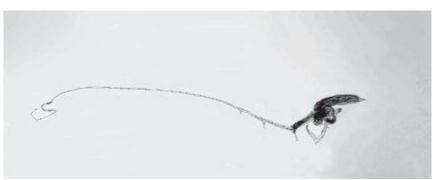


Photo: NOAA, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory

planktivorous fish, so population regulation from predation is unlikely to occur. This could have a serious effect on planktivore food supply in the Great Lakes region.

Means of Introduction: Ballast water, recreational boating, fishing equipment